

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/050,014

Applicant(s)

KHASELEV ET AL.

Examiner

Edna Wong

Art Unit

1753

-- **Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment After Final dated December 1, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 7 and 9-16.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☒ to Paper No. 4.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

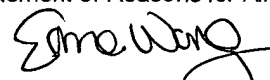
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- 1 ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2 ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3 ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. _____
- 4 ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

- 5 ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6 ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____
- 7 ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- 8 ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- 9 ☐ Other


Edna Wong
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1753

Drawings

The drawings filed on January 17, 2002 are acceptable subject to correction of the informalities indicated on the "Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review," PTO-948. In order to avoid abandonment of this application, correction is required in reply to the Office action. The correction will not be held in abeyance.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims **7 and 9-16** are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach or suggest an electroplating solution for tin-bismuth plating solder coatings comprising:

- a sulfonic acid electrolyte;

- a tin compound soluble in the electrolyte to form a tin sulfonate;

- a bismuth compound soluble in the electrolyte to form a bismuth sulfonate;

- a non-ionic surfactant comprising:

- (a) a polyethylene glycol-block-polypropylene glycol with a molecular weight between 2,000 and 10,000, and

- (b) a polyethylene glycol-ran-polypropylene glycol with a molecular weight between 2,000 and 10,000,

- a grain refiner; and

- an antioxidant.

The prior art does not contain any language that teaches or suggests the above. *Gernon et al.* do not teach a non-ionic surfactant comprising a polyethylene glycol-block-polypropylene glycol with a molecular weight between 2,000 and 10,000, **and** a polyethylene glycol-ran-polypropylene glycol with a molecular weight between 2,000 and 10,000. Therefore, a person skilled in the art would not have been motivated to adopt the above conditions, and a prima facie case of obviousness cannot be established.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edna Wong whose telephone number is (571) 272-1349. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7:30 am to 5:00 pm, alt. Fridays off.

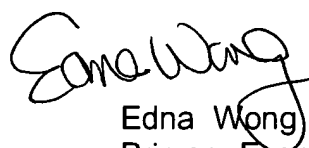
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nam Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-1342. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-

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Edna Wong
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1753

EW
December 19, 2003